

CITY COUNCIL 2013-2014 GOALS ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Top 10 Goals

1. Planning and Development of Depot/Railstop/Plant 1 with regular updates from Lexington Redevelopment Commission
 - Depot District community art mural project
 - Presented plan to Davidson County Commissioners for support
 - Successful monitoring visits concerning progress on TIGER II planning grant
 - Submitted TIGER V application and participated in debriefing for TIGER IV
 - Prepared phased approach and presented to Federal Rail Administration (FRA) and NC Department of Transportation (NCDOT)
 - Contracted with Shook Kelley to start process of drafting Request for Proposals (RFP) to begin redevelopment of first building
 - Showed buildings to several interested developers
 - **Submitted TIGER VI application**
 - **Working with citizen volunteers for graffiti removal in Depot District**
 - **Developed a demolition plan and strategy**
 - **Developed potential block redevelopment scenarios for inclusion in Request for Proposals (RFP)**
 - **Collaborated with Davidson County Community College officials to explore possible satellite sites and housing development in depot**
 - **Coordinating with Federal Rail Administration (FRA) and State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) to gain demolition approval for historic resources**
 - **Coordinated Regional (PART) and local (Davidson County) bus systems and routes for Transportation Hub with timed transfers**
2. Continue new economic direction
 - City Council endorsed Business Development Consortium Strategic Plan
 - Contract through ElectriCities Retail Strategies (Lacy Beasley) for recruitment – Atlanta show, Charlotte show, Las Vegas show
 - Promoting successes on City website - Uptown Lexington businesses that were recognized for façades; Lolly Wolly Doodle and Image Wizards publicity
 - Completed Phase I feasibility and Phase II of a “Food Hub” or “Farm to Table” initiative - entrepreneurs invited to participate via website news
 - “Lexington, NC Local First” trademark logo to promote support for existing businesses
 - Increased *CityWiFi* access in Depot District
 - Installed Uptown Lexington’s new *CityWiFi* medallions – decorating streets and promoting *CityWiFi*
 - 30th Annual BBQ Festival record breaking crowds
 - 2nd Annual NC Music and Arts Festival five day event
 - Land purchase and amendment to United Furniture economic development expansion grant agreement - total of \$3,250,000 investment and 400 jobs
 - Lexington’s entrepreneurial initiative featured on Fox 8 News – January 12, 2014 with additional exposure via website news
 - Ordinance amendment to permit and regulate Food Trucks
 - Assisted with opening of approximately 10 new local businesses

- **Issued Major Zoning Permits for Taco Bell, Walmart Neighborhood Market, Huntington Place Apartments, Family Dollar, Bojangles**
 - **Approved Economic Incentive Grants for Project Wolfe and Sunshine**
 - **Issued 63 Certificates of Occupancy for new businesses**
 - **Represented at International Council of Shopping Centers (ICSC) retail show in Vegas**
3. Maintain City's Financial Integrity
- Awarded \$225,000 Scattered Site Housing Program grant for owner-occupied, single-family housing rehabilitation for low and moderate income persons in Davidson County
 - Awarded \$7,906 Governor's Crime Commission grant to update audio and video recording equipment in the interview room at Police Department
 - Strategic use of controlled substance dollars for public safety initiatives
 - Awarded \$140,284 from Department of Homeland Security - FEMA to fund 24 SCBA airpack units in Fire Department
 - City (\$2,500), Davidson County (\$2,500) and Farm Bureau (\$5,000) sharing cost of Phase II "Food Hub" initiative
 - Awarded a Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting for the 22nd consecutive year
 - Accepted donation of Hillside Pool
 - Exploring reorganization opportunities for cost savings
 - Negotiations with NCDOT for their financial participation in appearance improvements to bridges, landscaping, etc.
 - **Amended Electric Fund Transfer Policy and filed with Local Government Commission**
 - **Actively seeking FEMA and State of North Carolina Reimbursement for March 6-7, 2014 Ice Storm**
 - **Utilizing the Police Training Center to host Nationally Recognized Training for top level police officers for savings of approximately \$10,000 by being the host site**
 - **Working on CMAQ application for Recycling and Waste Collection sideloader trucks**
4. Focus efforts on improving the City's appearance
- Installed benches in Uptown Lexington
 - Installed new *CityWiFi* banners and medallions – decorating Uptown streets and promoting *CityWiFi*
 - Electric personnel demonstrated initiative to fix broken banner and decorative light at the Square in Uptown Lexington
 - Negotiated installation of Decorative Crosswalks at the Square in Uptown Lexington
 - Depot District community art mural project
 - Painted NCDOT stop light poles and crosswalk controls at State Street and West Center Street to be uniform with decorative poles uptown
 - Negotiations with NCDOT for appearance improvements to bridges, landscaping, etc.
 - Began Public Services initiative to clean streets, curbs and gutters - included website news to request citizens refrain from blowing yard debris in streets
 - Painting fire hydrants in Uptown Lexington
 - Coordinated Day of Service with partners to clean streets and improve properties
 - Removed 21 blighted structures, processed 1,219 nuisance cases/complaints

- Beautification of Municipal Club parking areas
 - Municipal Club renovations Phase I complete - ballroom and kitchen renovations
 - **Approved Encroachment Agreement for NC Highway 64 West Gateway Bridge Lighting Enhancement Project**
 - **Drafted Comprehensive Property Standards Code to address appearance of commercial buildings, as well as minimum housing and nuisance issues**
 - **Winston Road Streetscape placed first for the MPO projects to be submitted to NCDOT**
5. Support programs that will prepare students for good citizenship, successful future and jobs
- Supported Lexington City Government Youth Council (LCGYC) movie nights
 - City official attending monthly LCS Board of Education meetings
 - Attendance at Annual Human Relations Student Awards Banquet
 - Lexington Utilities "Student Athlete of the Week" - recognizing both classroom and athletic competition performance
 - Promoting Lexington City Schools accomplishments via website news - LSHS graduation rate 86.1% in 2012-13 (vs. statewide 82.5% rate)
 - Promoting Vice President Joe Biden's visit to Davidson County Community College on City website
 - **Allocated neighborhood funds towards Jacket Academic Booster Club**
 - **Police Department teaches DARE and GREAT to students at Lexington City Schools**
 - **Police Chief serves on the Board of Directors of the Jacket Academic Booster Club**
 - **Lexington Utilities partnered with ElectriCities to facilitate the first E-tracker class at Lexington High School to help students understand the relationship between weather and energy consumption**
 - **Worked with LCGYC to paint Yellow Jackets on Hemstead Street**
6. Partner with key stakeholders to define the brand of Lexington
- Dynamic City website instrument and critical to marketing and promoting progressive community (over 600 citizens have Signed up for eNews, Facebook, Twitter, YouTube)
 - With partner ElectriCities, Lexington Public Power video on City YouTube page
 - "Lexington, NC Local First" logo expanded to partner agencies, volunteer appreciation dinner, and customized for City departments
 - As part of *CityWifi* signage, partnered and negotiated free of charge a redesign of Uptown Lexington, Inc. logo and new banners
 - Participating in Lexington Tourism Authority's "Wayfinding" signage design - subtle tie-in of City logo and *CityWifi* artsy pig mascot
 - "Safety First" Lexington Fire Department customized logo on new Quint Fire Truck
 - Involvement of citizen-led Strategic Planning Committee in future direction of Lexington
 - 14 key City government officials joined local civic clubs as liaisons and ambassadors in the community
 - **4th Annual BBQ Capital Cook-Off**
 - **Presentation by Looking Glass Research concerning Barbecue Festival survey data**
 - **Recognized as Top 10 Best BBQ Cities by The Huffington Post**
 - **Recognized as Top 50 Safest Cities in North Carolina by Safewise.com**
 - **Lexington Golf Club exposure on the Golf Channel (Bill Coore interview)**

7. Expand recreational opportunities for youth and establish activities such as senior parks, biking trails, skate park, dog park, etc.
 - Completed grant funded Green Needles and Erlanger Parks and held ribbon cuttings
 - Completed Recreation facilities study with citizen public forums and held mini-retreat for City Council
 - Accepted donation of Hillside Pool to be renovated into the community pool in 2015
 - "Re-creation of Recreation" master plan delivered at City Council 2014 Retreat
 - City Council approved contract with Tompkins Consulting to facilitate citizen involvement in the multi-year phase-in of the "Re-creation of Recreation" master plan
 - **Parks and Recreation Department recognized by National Recreation and Parks Association for launching School Wellness Program**
 - **Allocated neighborhood funds to Davidson County Post 8 Baseball for American Legion Baseball State Tournament**
 - **Approved partnership with YMCA for management and operation of Radcliffe Pool**
 - **The Golf Department provided a 3-day clinic for the Parks and Recreation Department for 60 young participants involved with the summer programs**
8. Support development of "green" initiatives
 - Expanded rollout recycling program – completed Thursday's collection route
 - IQM2 software implemented for agenda preparation
 - As of June 2014, over **500** customers have signed up for paperless billing with new electronic billpay software
 - Completed Natural Gas Vehicles study (NGVs) and presented at City Council 2014 Retreat
 - Partnering with PART to receive Plug-in Electric Vehicles (PEV) charging station
 - Fuel conservation focus for City departments – 10% reduction in fuel cost
 - Implementing citywide intranet - *The PIT* (portal for information transfer)
 - **Working on CMAQ application for Recycling and Waste Collection sideloader truck**
9. Pursue a diverse, professional staff that is well trained and skilled and reflects the community
 - Expanded recruiting efforts by attending job fairs and advertising on minorityjobs.net
 - Comprehensive assessment panel interview process used in selection of Finance Director and Human Resources Director
 - Amended City's Personnel Policy, Section III, Standards of Employment
 - Police Captain graduated from FBI National Academy
 - Grant for BLET student funded by City Council neighborhood funds
 - Customer service/professionalism training complete for entire workforce
 - **Restructured and approved position classifications for Customer Service and Parks and Recreation departments**
 - **Police Major elected to the board of the NC Chapter of the FBI National Academy**
 - **Eight top level employees from the Police Department completed Executive Leadership Course and Supervisor Leadership Course**
 - **Police Administration developed and instructed a Leadership Course for all police corporals and potential supervisors**
 - **Managing Change workshop offered for department heads, managers and supervisors**
 - **Drug Free Workplace – Reasonable Suspicion training completed for all department heads, managers, supervisors and crew leaders**

- **Team Skills workshop and Safety & Wellness workshop offered for all employees**
 - **Multiple recruitment methods for Parks and Recreation Assistant Director utilized including universities in the NC university system offering parks and recreation related degrees**
10. Support and partner with organizations that promote homeownership and adopt innovative approaches addressing housing options, blighted neighborhoods and neighborhood stabilization
- Accepted \$225,000 Scattered Site Housing Program grant for owner-occupied, single-family housing rehabilitation for low and moderate income persons in Davidson County
 - Partner funding to Lexington Housing Community Development Corporation, including closeout of Erlanger revitalization
 - Active partnership with Habitat for Humanity
 - Additional planning resources hired to increase support of neighborhood planning and initiatives
 - Removed 21 blighted housing structures
 - Application filed to request Community Planning Team Assistance from American Planning Association (APA) for Uptown East Revitalization project
 - City Council endorsed the issuance by the Lexington Housing Authority of its not to exceed \$5,500,000 Multifamily Housing Revenue Bonds (Terrace Lane Apartments Project), Series 2014 and not to exceed \$5,500,000 Multifamily Housing Revenue Bonds (Southside Apartments Project), Series 2014, respectively
 - **Held Uptown East Neighborhood Planning Meeting**

Additional Key Accomplishments

- Held mini-retreat for City Council, accepted 2020 Renaissance Plan from citizen-led Strategic Planning Committee and incorporated into Department Head performance review discussion and work plans (as applicable)
- Established Local Historic Overlay District
- Synergies developing from leadership meetings with Davidson County management team
- Prototype of City Limits Signs with new logo to be installed Highway 64 gateway entrance near Childress Vineyards
 - Collaborating with the Lexington Tourism Authority's Wayfinding Committee for final design